

Arlington Historic District Commissions Final & Approved Minutes

Date: *January 23, 2020*

Time: 8:00 PM

Location: Whittemore Robbins House, 670R Mass. Ave., Arlington MA

Commissioners M. Audin, M. Bush, B. Cohen, S. Makowka, C. Tee,

Present: J. Worden

Commissioners

Not Present: N. Aikenhead, D. Baldwin, C. Barry

Guests: A. Menke, N. Araughley, P. Eaton, L. Saul, K. Neff, A. Jones

1. AHDC Meeting Opens 8:00pm

- 2. Appointment of alternate Commissioners
- 3. Approval of draft minutes from December 19, 2019. J. Worden moved approval with changes on Communications item C, seconded by C. Tee. Unanimous approval with changes included.
- 4. COMMUNICATIONS

5. OPEN FORUM

Ordinarily, any matter presented to the Commission under Open Forum will neither be acted upon nor a formal decision made, absent a previously noticed agenda item, but the Commission may make a decision if it deems it appropriate and necessary for the public good.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Central Street and Avon Place Historic District vacant commissioner seats and Resignation of Cynthia Hamilton (Broadway District). S. Makowka is instructed to forward recommendation that C. Barry move to At-Large and appoint Beth Melofchik to Broadway as a new commissioner. M. Audin abstained and all others voted to approve.
- b. Report from Streetscape sub-committee None
- c. Modification of Design Guidelines for Fiberglass Gutter eligibility for a CONA M. Bush said we really should finalize this some way or another.
- d. Approve 2020 Meeting Calendar

7. NEW BUSINESS

8:00pm

- Continuation of Formal Hearing re: 17 Irving Street (Parmenter School Bldg-Town of Arl.) for installation of an elevator. Architect gave presentation. Looked at more options and ultimately new proposal is pushing elevator location back 10 feet from original proposal. Per code (4 stories) they need to accommodate a stretcher and have proposed the smallest size cab possible. By lowering and pushing back, helps to minimize some of the visual issues. Details in materials shown. Blue markings were original proposal, red ones are new options investigated. Best option seems to be Option 1 per the applicant. Others have various issues including access and conflicts with use on upper floors. S. Makowka asked what the elevator shaft roof should be – Commissioners agreed not slate. Applicant confirmed that everything will be the same color. Discussion about the crickets and how to treat them to appropriately deal with water. J. Worden asked again about the elevator being in the center of the building and Applicant and B. Cohen explained why this wouldn't work. S. Makowka said he likes it pushed back from the prior proposed location. Applicant confirmed that granite stoop stays. B. Cohen moved approval for option 1 as shown in the revised drawings presented 1-23-2020 with monitor to approve final details prior to installation. M. Bush seconded. Unanimous approval. Monitor B. Cohen appointed. Send certificate to architect as well as Town Manager.
- b. Continuation of Formal Hearing re: 195 Westminster Ave. for solar panel **installation**. Design reconfigured so that skylights will to fit in better. Applicant confirmed that the panels are black on black. The Applicant agreed that the front panels can be pushed back 6" or so and they will push it back as much as possible up against the skylight. Applicant agreed that they can paint the conduit to match the siding and/or the roof as needed. There are 10' pieces of conduit in the one run. S. Makowka said there's an existing gutter and downspout and would prefer to run through the eave and then down next to gutter. Everything will be painted to match the roof or the siding. The size and location of exterior equipment was questioned – the Commission preferred the inverters to be either on the back of the structure or in the basement, such that they are not visible on front corner of hose. Discussion about the shut off being outside and the inverter box going inside. M. Bush moved approval of proposal as submitted with changes that panels be shifted back as much as possible to butt up to existing skylights and 2 piping options -1) run conduit down as shown in plans subject to condition that goes through eve and down along electrical line with boxes in basement or 2) run conduit down back with boxes on outside if out of sight. Any conduits on roof/wall to match roof/wall color. Seconded by J. Worden. Unanimous approval. Monitor appointed D. Baldwin.
- Formal Hearing re: 221 Pleasant Street regarding exterior changes. The house was purchased in December. Built in 1948 and added on in 1954. Built for professor at Harvard from 1948-1978 and sold to "Nobel Laureate" Roy Glauber who lived there until 2008. He passed on at 93 last year and the family sold the house. The applicants want to keep the house in the vision consistent with when it was built but modernize it without changing features that make it beautiful and unique. Site plan given. Page A3.0 shows existing garage, they're removing the existing roof and top of sloped brick and building up another block height. Page A4.1 – shows how they're trying to keep details – large picture window is free floating board and they're going to divide into 2 separate windows for structural reasons. Other changes include 2 small casements being changed to 1 single frame, adding 1 window which is way set back and probably not visible, and adding window into master bath to give light – can't be seen from street. M. Audin expressed concern on flashing on the roof but they are addressing it properly. M. Audin discussed framing using PSL lumber. Metal clad outside and inside is wood and fiberglass composite. Looking pictures of existing conditions and there is zero gap between the soffit and the window. They are going to drop 3" to allow for some structural framing. Finishes on foundation and garage are being parged

for consistent appearance. Keeping natural wood cedar, all windows will be black and light gray for parged areas. Garage is identical to match. Chimney is natural stone and stays like that on outside. EPDM roof. Currently rolled roofing and want to change to rubber roof.

- B. Cohen moved approval to accept renovation proposal with final details be reviewed with monitor prior to installation, C. Tee seconded. Unanimous approval. Monitor appointed M. Audin.
- d. Formal Hearing re: 69 Crescent Hill Ave. regarding moving a window 12" and other exterior renovations. M. Bush stepped down from the Commission and presented. The location of the moved window is 77' from the street. B. Cohen moved approval of changes as presented in the application. Seconded by C. tee. Unanimous approval. Monitor appointed S. Makowka.
- e. **Informal Hearing re: 50 Academy Street for fiberglass gutters.** M. Bush moved that this change is so insubstantial that it qualifies for a 10-Day Certificate, seconded by M. Audin. Unanimous approval. M. Bush moved to approve the use of Commission approved fiberglass gutters. Seconded by M. Audin. Unanimous approval.
- 8. REVIEW OF PROJECTS
- 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION To discuss ongoing litigation

See separate Executive Session Minutes

10. MEETING ADJOURNS 10:39pm directly on exit from Executive Session

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 27, 2020 – Review Commissioner- C. Tee